



Florida House of Representatives

HOUSE MAJORITY OFFICE

402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida
32399-1300

Adam Hasner
Majority Leader

322 The Capitol
(850) 488-1993

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 30, 2010

CONTACT: Joseph Agostini
(850) 488-1993

HOUSE PASSES JOBS FOR FLORIDIANS PACKAGE, INCENTIVE TO ATTRACT BUSINESS AND CREATE JOBS

~Measure creates the conditions for job growth to get Floridians back to work~

TALLAHASSEE, FL – Today the Florida House passed a measure to strengthen Florida's economic development-related programs to incentivize businesses to expand operations, attract new business and generate jobs for Floridians. Senate Bill (SB) 1752 will create conditions for Florida's businesses to generate jobs. Attracting the high paying career sectors of the future to the state will help Florida to develop a highly-skilled workforce and high paying jobs to poise Florida to successfully compete in the global marketplace. Representative Ellyn Bogdanoff (R-Fort Lauderdale) and Representative Will Weatherford (R-Wesley Chapel) issued the following joint statement:

"There is no doubt in anyone's mind that Florida is facing one of the worst economies in memory. I am pleased that the House and Senate worked together and crafted a truly comprehensive economic stability and growth package that will focus on incentivizing Florida's businesses to begin to generate jobs. This measure helps strategically position our economy for growth once the economic recovery gains momentum," stated Representative Bogdanoff. "This comprehensive package will accomplish our goal of getting Florida's economy back on track by creating the conditions for job creation."

"My top priority this Session is recharging Florida's economy and getting Floridians back to work. This measure creates opportunities for our businesses to hire Floridians and get Florida's economy back on track. I want to thank Senator Gaetz and Representative Bogdanoff for their hard work and commitment in helping our chambers craft this very important jobs bill," stated Representative Weatherford.

(more)

SB 1752 amends several Florida economic development-related programs in an effort to incentivize businesses to expand operations and attract new business - both of which will result in much needed job growth for Floridians. It includes:

Film and Entertainment – CS/CS/HB 697 (Precourt)

- Creates the Entertainment Industry Financial Incentive Program which awards transferrable tax credits for qualified spending on productions in Florida.
- Allocates tax credits over the next 5 years for qualified productions and expenditures:
 - \$53.5 million for FY 2010-11
 - \$74.5 million for FY 2011-12
 - \$38 million per year for FY 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15
- Impacts on state budget are delayed until FY 2011-12.

Jobs for Unemployed Tax Credit

- Provides a tax credit of \$1,000 per hire to qualified businesses for hiring persons unemployed for at least 30 days; the person will need to work at least 36 hours per week for 12 months for the business to be eligible to claim the tax credit refund. This tax credit program is funded at \$5 million per year for a two year period.

Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program – HB 7109 (Murzin and Carroll)

- Enhances the incentives provided by the QTI program
 - \$2,000 per job for businesses in high-impact sectors
 - \$2,000 per job for businesses that increase exports by at least 10% in value or tonnage
 - \$1,000 per job if local financial support is equal to the state's incentive program
- Authorizes OTTED to waive wage requirement for manufacturing projects.

Space Florida

- Space Florida will receive an additional \$29.8 million in order to help fund necessary infrastructure improvements, alleviate workforce reduction issues due to federal cuts to the space shuttle program, and assist with targeted business development.

Community Renewal Act of 2009 Safeguards– HB 7099 (Hukill)

- Provides protections to persons or local governments that took action under SB 360 from the 2009 session, including provisions relating to permit extensions, DRI exemptions and comprehensive plans amendments relating to transportation concurrency exception areas.

Professional Sports Franchises

- Updates the laws regarding professional sports franchises in Major League Baseball (MLB) spring training facilities with the goal of attracting and retaining MLB teams for Spring Training in the Sunshine State.

###